



remembrance ni



George McAllan from Dungannon who died on this day in 1918 serving with the RAF is remembered at Tabi Tishwani Cemetery, Pretoria.

NI Marine's gallantry at Battle of the River Plate 13th December 1939

During the Battle of the River Plate 15 Marines lost their lives mostly manning turrets. In HMS Exeter 10 Marines were killed, and in HMS Ajax 5 Marines killed.

Background

Since the war started, a German battleship, the Graf Spee, had been roaming the South Atlantic sinking unarmed British merchant ships. She was being hunted by several British hunting groups, and was found by the three British cruisers, Exeter, Ajax, and Achilles on 13th December 1939, and then began the Battle of the River Plate. The main armament of the Exeter was six 8inch guns, and that of the Ajax and Achilles was eight 6inch guns. The Graf Spee had six 11inch guns and eight 6inch guns.

The Conspicuous Gallantry Medal was awarded to Northern Ireland man Sergeant Samuel John Trimble

Royal Marines. Sergeant. Awarded the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal for his service on HMS Achilles 13/12/1939

Born in Belfast, Samuel 'Baggy' Trimble joined the Royal Marines in October 1924. For the first 15 years of his service, Trimble was primarily based in the Portsmouth Division but was posted to several vessels during this time including HM Ships Tiger, Concord, Cornwall, and London.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, Trimble was part of the Royal Marine detachment posted to HMS Achilles. He was serving in Achilles when she was called to patrol the Pacific and Atlantic Coasts of South America for German vessels. He was subsequently involved in the Battle of the River Plate on 13 December 1939. During the battle, Trimble was in the Direct Control Tower and his job was to

spot the fall of Achilles' shells and reporting them to the Transmitting Station. When the Direct Control Tower was hit, Trimble 'was severely wounded but stood fast without flinching or complaint throughout the hour of action that followed, bearing his wounds with great fortitude'.

For his actions at River Plate he was awarded the Conspicuous Gallantry medal (CGM) on 23/02/1940. The Citation: "Who, early in the action, when several splinters struck the Gun Director, at once killing three men and wounding two others inside the tower, was severely wounded; but stood fast without flinching or complaint throughout the hour of action that followed, bearing his wounds with great fortitude. When the medical party came he helped them to move the wounded and then made his own way to the Sick Bay with little aid." The CGM was second only to the VC as a gallantry award to enlisted personnel. On HMS Exeter, Stkr 1st Cl. Patrick O'Brien, a Dubliner, also earned the CGM for rescuing wounded men in very difficult and dangerous circumstances.

When the cruiser HMS *Achilles* opened fire on the German 'pocket battleship' *Admiral Graf Spee* in the South Atlantic at 6.21 a.m. on 13/12/1939, it became the first New Zealand unit to strike a blow at the enemy in the Second World War. With the New Zealand ensign flying proudly from its mainmast – as battle loomed, a signalman had run aft with the ensign shouting 'Make way for the Digger flag!' – *Achilles* also became the first New Zealand warship to take part in a naval battle.

Trimble continued to serve in *Achilles* until 1943 and was on board when the ship was bombed off Guadalcanal. He was

part of the crew that took Achilles to Britain for modernisation and refit.

Sergeant Samuel John Trimble later recorded his memories for an official RM history.

This account follows - On the morning of 13 Dec 1939 I was keeping the morning watch in the after control position. My particular job was to keep the lookouts awake and doing their job. It is all too easy to go to sleep sitting on a comfortable seat and leaning against a bracket holding a powerful set of Admiralty binoculars. I was a junior lieutenant in the Royal Marines and was second in command of the Royal Marine Detachment. Humphrey Woods was the Captain of Marines and at action stations he was in charge of B turret manned by the R.M. Detachment. Most cruisers had four turrets A,B,X and Y and the Marines manned X turret.

However as Exeter only had three turrets A,B and Y, The Marines manned B turret. I had tried to get charge of the turret myself a few weeks earlier as it would be more interesting than chasing lookouts. But Captain Woods was not having any of it and I had to remain with my lookouts.

At about 0600 the Graf Spee was sighted well down on the horizon and the bugler sounded Action Stations over the tannoy. I well remember my heart went well down into my boots as everyone was hurrying to his position. Very soon two great clouds of fire and smoke burst from the enemy as he fired his first broadside and about a minute later a line of shells landed in the sea about 300 yards short. Our course was set to get within range of the enemy and return fire. The next enemy broadside was correct for range but fell about



Samuel Trimble's medals. Photo: National Museum of the Royal New Zealand Navy

For his service Samuel was awarded the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal, 1939-1945 Star, Pacific Star (Burma Clasp), the War Medal, and the Royal Naval Long Service and Good Conduct Medal 1937-1948.

300 yards astern. Thereafter we were receiving our punishment but managed to get within gun range of the Graf Spee and scored several hits.

B turret was hit by an 11 inch shell between the guns after firing about 5 broadsides and everyone in front of the breeches were killed including Capt Woods. Splinters from this shell killed several people on the bridge and cut all communications so Captain Bell (The ship's Captain) came aft to fight the ship from the after control Position. Very soon both A and Y turrets were put out of action because their electrical supplies were cut off, so Captain Bell said within my hearing " I'm going to ram the -----". It will be the end of

us but it will sink him too". So off we set. Fortunately the electricians managed to get Y turret working again so we turned away and carried on firing with Y turret. Normal steering of the ship was not possible due to damage so we organised a chain of seamen to pass steering orders down to the after steering position. Lookouts were no longer required so I went to look at B turret. There was some burning debris on top of one gun loading tray and immediately under it a naked charge ready for loading into the gun. Looked a nasty situation so I removed the charge by chucking it overboard and put out the fire.

I remember Marine Russel with his forearm shot away. He was walking around rallying some leaderless seamen and putting them to useful work. When we got back to Stanley in the Falkland Islands Mne Russel was taken into the hospital and appeared to be making a good recovery. However he needed a minor operation to improve his forearm stump and he died under the anaesthetic. He was buried with full military honours in Stanley on the very day the ship left for UK. While we were getting our punishment Commodore Harwood in the Ajax and the Achilles were scoring hits on the Graf Spee from the disengaged side. It was clear that the Graf Spee was trying to get into Montevideo so Commodore Harwood signalled us to report the state of the ship and then ordered us to go back to Stanley in the Falkland Islands. Ajax and Achilles followed the Graf Spee until she was interned in Montevideo and waited outside for reinforcements in case she tried to get away. That evening we buried about 50 of the ships company at sea. On 17th December, the Graf Spee sailed out of Montevideo and scuttled herself, thus saving many lives.

Sergeant Samuel John Trimble's service record

Samuel Trimble was born on April, 13, 1904 in Belfast, County Antrim, Ireland. He was a plumber, but joined the Royal Marines on October 7, 1924 with the service number 22169. He first served on the battlecruiser HMS Tiger (1926 - 1929). He was promoted to corporal in 1933, and to sergeant in 1937.

He joined HMNZS Achilles on January 27, 1939 and was present at the Battle of the River Plate on December 13, 1939, for which he was awarded the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal.

Promoted to Colour Sergeant in March, 1943, he served on HMNZ Gambia from September 23, 1943 to June 27, 1945.

From September 1943, Trimble was posted to HMNZS Gambia which took part in operations in the Indian and Northern Pacific Oceans including actions against Japanese forces. He served in Gambia until June 1945 when he was posted ashore and then to HMS Golden Hind at Sydney. He retired from service in June 1946 and was discharged ashore in Victoria, Australia. He also held the Naval Long Service and Good Conduct Medal 1036 - 1952

Samuel was finally discharged from the Royal Marines on June 7, 1946 after 22 years of service.



On this Day – December 13

1937

The Japanese army occupies Nanking, China.

1939

In the south Atlantic, the pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee, fights an action against three British cruisers, HMS Achilles, HMS Ajax and HMS Exeter, which results in serious damage to both sides. HMS Exeter is rendered a blazing hulk and the Graf Spee withdraws to the neutral Uruguayan port of Montevideo for repairs.

1940

Pétain dismisses his Vice-Premier, Laval.

British General Richard O'Connor decides his tank raid against Italian troops is going so well he will make it a full-fledged offensive. One of O'Connors officers reports having captured "five acres of officers, 200 acres of other ranks," as the Italians surrender en masse.

Hitler issues Directive No. 20, the order for the preparation of Operation 'Marita', the plan for sending German forces to revive the bogged-down Italian offensive in Albania.



Italian offensive in Albania.

Twenty four German divisions begin their redeployment to Romania, through Hungary as part of Directive No. 20, Hitler's order for the preparation of Operation 'Marita', the attack on Greece.

1941

The Soviet press issues a triumphant statement on the repulse of the German Armies before Moscow. The Red Army launches a new counter-offensive using Timoshenko's South West Front in an attack northwest against the juncture of Panzer Group 2 and the German 2nd Army between Yelets and Livny. This results in Panzer Group 2's right flank being left open as the 2nd Army is forced to withdraw in order to save itself. Field Marshal von Brauchitsch meets Field Marshal von Bock, C-in-C of Army Group Centre and decide that Army Group Centre must withdraw some 90 miles west to take up a 'winter line'. Secret orders are passed to this effect.

The British manage to turn back an Italian convoy, which is taking supplies to Libya, by making it believe that its under threat from the Mediterranean Fleet.

The British Governor of Hong Kong rejects a Japanese demand for his garrisons surrender. British troops in the southern tip of Burma begin to withdraw north towards Rangoon.

A US naval task force under Rear-Admiral Frank J. Fletcher sets sail from Pearl Harbor with orders to relieve Wake Island.

1942

Rommel begins to retreat from his positions El Agheila, as the Eighth Army continues advance in to Libya.

The Japanese make successful new landings North of Buna.



1943

Captain. James Stewart of the US 445th BG flies his first

mission in a B-24 Liberator bomber for the US Eighth Air Force in England.

54 Mustangs escorted B-17s 490 miles on a raid over Kiel, Germany, and for the first time in the war successfully defended the bombers for 40 minutes over the targets, shooting down enemy fighter planes.

A war criminals trial at Kharkov accuses four Germans of murdering thousands of Russians in specially equipped carbon-monoxide murder vans. Army Group Centre becomes engaged in a series of heavy defensive battles in the area of Vitebsk.

1944

The USAAF make the first damaging raid on Japanese industrial targets.

German forces of 7th Armee withdraw in to the fortified positions of the Westwall.

The U.S. cruiser Nashville was badly damaged in a Japanese kamikaze suicide attack that claimed 138 lives.



Roll of Honour – December 13

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1915

+WHITLEY, R

Royal Irish Rifles, 17th. Btn. Rifleman. 12456. Died 13/12/1915. Age 46. Dundonald Cemetery, Belfast

1916

+MAGEE, Patrick

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 8th Btn. C Coy. Private. 20920. Died 13/12/1916. Age 19. Son of Patrick and Mary Ann Magee, of 12, Osman St., Belfast. St Pol Communal Cemetery Extension, France

+McCOURT, R

Royal Irish Rifles, 1st Btn. Lance Corporal. 9153. Died 13/12/1916. Age 27. Son of William and Mary Jane McCourt, of 48, Dromore St., Banbridge. Etaples Military Cemetery, France. Seapatricks of I Parish Church WM, Banbridge

+THOMPSON, W

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Serjeant. 6994. Died 13/12/1916. Age 33. Born at Belfast. Son of John and Margaret Foy Thompson, of 544, Princess St., Kingston, Ontario, Canada. Derry City Cemetery

+WATT, Henry

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Btn. Private. 19295. Died 13/12/1916. Aged 25. Son of Joseph and Isabella Watt, of Annaghbeg, Donaghmore, Co. Tyrone. He is a linen worker. Henry enlisted in Bundoran, County Donegal. Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord, France. Dungannon WM

1917

+GREER, Joseph

Royal Irish Rifles, 14th Btn. Rifleman. 17772. Died 14/12/1917. Aged 31. Son of Margaret Hydes (formerly Greer), of 12, Donegall Cottage, Cavehill Rd., Belfast. Etretat Churchyard Extension, Seine-Maritime, France

+McKENZIE, John

RN. Died 13/12/1917. Armitage St., Belfast. Belfast Telegraph 17/12/1918 in memoriam notice from sister Susan Barker of Armitage St., Sara Downs of Bright St., and brother David. Megain Memorial - PCI RH

+WILSON, George D H

RM. PLY/9192. HMS Carysfort. Died 13/12/1917. Age 36. Born Bridgnorth, Salop 01/02/1879. Enlisted Walsall 31/05/1898. Son of John Wilson, Mount St., Coleraine.

Husband to Annie Wilson, Plymouth. Woodlands Cemetery, Gillingham, Kent

1918

+DOUTHER, Archibald

18th (Western Ontario) Btn. Sergeant. 53042. Died 13/12/1918 at 12 Canadian General Hospital, Bramshott. Enlisted in Fergus, Ontario in the 18th (Western Ontario) Btn on the 24/10/1914, pointing out that he was 'enlisting as a regimental tailor'; he was a tailor by trade. His service was later deemed to be from the 29 April. He was 5' 9" tall, had brown eyes and brown hair, and said he was a Methodist. He was married, his wife Martha then being at North End, Ballyclare. During the war, since Archibald was to serve only in England, she lived at 3, Hillview Terrace, Etchinghill, Lyminge, Kent. He said he was born in Ballyclare, elsewhere Larne, but he was actually born at Drains, Cairncastle on the 28/09/1888 and he was the son of carpenter Thomas Douter and Agnes Elizabeth McConnell. He left Canada from Halifax aboard the SS Grampian on the 18/04/1916 with the 18th Battalion and landed in England on the 29 April. He passed through the 36th Battalion before going to the 39th Battalion. He stayed there until transferred to the 6th (Reserve) Battalion on 04/01/1917. Archibald Douter was one of those struck down by the Spanish influenza outbreak at the end of the Great War. He was ill by the 11/12/1918 and his illness was designated 'influenza-pneumonia' the next day. His problems developed rapidly and he was seriously ill on the 13th. He died at 12 Canadian General Hospital, Bramshott at 5.45 pm that day. He was a member of Ballyclare True Blues LOL 957 and Straid Freemasons Lodge 276. His

brother Thomas served during the war and survived..
Archibald Doucher's body was brought home. Ballyclare
New Cemetery. Ballyclare WM. Ballyclare Methodist Church
RH Cairncastle PC WM

+FERGUSON, William Joseph

RNR. Trimmer. 7543/TS. HMS Pekin. Died 13/12/1918 of
scarlet fever at RN Sick Quarters, Grimsby. Age 19. Born
Belfast 11/07/1899. He enrolled on 19/12/1917 when living
at 98 Mervue St., Belfast. Son of Joseph and Margaret (nee
McCartney) Ferguson, of Whitehouse, Belfast. Scartho
Road Cemetery. Grimsby. Whitehouse Presbyterian Church
RH

+McALLAN, George Herbert

South African Medical Corps and Royal Air Force.
Lieutenant. Died 13/12/1918. Son of Alexander and Marion
McAllan. George was born in Belfast on 02/02/1879. George
attended the Collegiate School, Monaghan and then the
Royal School Dungannon. George McAllan played rugby for
both schools and then for Dungannon. In February 1901 he
moved to South Africa. In 1903 he married a Catherine
Hogate of South Africa. During the Great War he
volunteered for active service and in February 1915 he was
gazetted 2nd Lieutenant with the Royal Flying Corps, and
was later promoted to Lieutenant. He died in December
1918 from the effects of injuries received whilst in the Royal
Air Force. Thaba Tshwane Military Cemetery, South Africa

+WYLIE, James

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 3rd Btn. Private. 31924. Died 13/12/1918. Age 18. Son of Robert and Lizzie Wylie, of Killynumber, Tobermore, Londonderry. St Comgall, Dromore, C of I Churchyard. Tobermore WM Tobermore C of I RH

1920

+CHARTERS, Samuel

New Zealand Army. Canterbury Regiment. Private. 63717. Died 23/12/1920. Age 23. Samuel Charters was the son of William and Mary Jane Charters. Samuel Charters was born in Bellaghy on 25/01/1897. He was the youngest of seven sons. He had two sisters. The family lived in Mullaghboy, Bellaghy, County Londonderry. Samuel Charters emigrated to New Zealand in January 1914. Samuel Charters was working as a labourer before he enlisted on 12/07/1917. In March 1918, whilst still in England, he took ill with tonsillitis. By August, his condition had deteriorated with what seems to have been a severe lung infection and he was transferred to a London hospital. He was discharged due to illness in January 1919 and returned to New Zealand. Samuel died of that illness at Napier Hospital, New Zealand on the eve of Christmas. Hastings Cemetery, Hastings, North Island. Castledawson WM

1939

+McCLUGGAGE, Edward

RAF. Sergeant. 521091. Died 13/12/1939. Age 23. 236 Sqdn. Test pilot. Died after a flying accident in England. Son

of Edward and Jane McCluggage, of Larne. McGarel Cemetery, Larne

1940

+GRAHAM James

Royal Scots Fusiliers. 1st Btn. 3129435. Fusilier. 3129435. Died 13/12/1940. Age 24. Son of Samuel and Sophia Graham, of Newtownards. Newtownards Cemetery

1941

+GAMBLE, Thomas

Royal Air Force. Corporal. 638345. Died 13/12/1941. Age 24. Son of George Gamble, and of Florence M. Gamble of Lisburn. Dromara First Presbyterian Churchyard

+HENDERSON, John

RN. Petty Officer Supply. P/MX. 55389. Died 13/12/1941. Age 23. HMS Puckeridge, a Hunt type escort destroyer. Lost 06/09/1943. Around 2015 hours on 6 September 1943 HMS Puckeridge (Lt. John Cecil Cartwright, DSC, RN) was hit by two of four torpedoes fired by the German submarine U-617 and sank about 40 nautical miles east of Gibraltar in position 36°06'N, 04°44'W. HMS Puckeridge was en route alone taking important messages to Oran. 129 men were rescued and 62 men were lost with the ship. Four years service in RN. He was a member of 10th Belfast Scout Troop and of St John Ambulance Brigade. Worked previously in Durham Street Weaving Company. He was married only three weeks before his death. Son of David and Elizabeth Henderson, Dundela Crescent, Belfast; husband to Isobel Henderson,

Dunfermline, Fife. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 02/01/1942).
Comemmorated Pembroke Dock Cemetery, Wales

+MADDEN, William

Royal Artillery. Gunner. 853182. Died 14/12/1941. Aged 26.
31 Field Regt. Son of Mrs. Susan Madden, of Bolea, Co.
Londonderry. Alamein Memorial, Egypt

+MONTGOMERY, Thomas

RNVR. AB. Service Number P/ED/X. 1615. Died 13/12/1941.
Age 21. HMS Puckeridge. Brother Richard serving with the
Royal Artillery. His father had served throughout WW1. Son
of William and Rebecca Agnes Montgomery, Boundary St.,
Belfast, Northern Ireland. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph
26/12/1941). Pembroke Dock (Llanion) Cemetery

1942

+MARTIN, William John Robertson

RN. AB. D/JX 146964. Died 03/12/1942. Age 22. HMS
Penylan. Joined RN as a Boy. Served two years on China
Station prior to the war. Brother also serving in the RN.
Father and two uncles served in WW1. Husband to
Wilhelmina Mary Martin, Auburn St., Belfast. (Belfast Weekly
Telegraph 25/12/1942). Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 66

+NUTT, John,

RN. AB. D-JX182483. HMS White Bear. Died 13/12/1942.
Age 25. White Bear served as a tender to submarine
flotillas. Son of Joseph and Sarah Nutt, Ballysillan, Belfast.
Carnmoney C of I churchyard

1943

+JOHNSTON, George Usher

RN. Leading Stoker. D/KX132149. HMS Kenya. Died 13/12/1943. Age 21. He had tried to join the Navy on a couple of occasions before his 18th birthday but was unsuccessful. Died as a result of a tragic accident on board HMS Kenya. He was buried in an iron casket on the shore close to where he died. A few years later his body was reinterred at Trincomalee War Cemetery, Sri Lanka. Born 21/01/1923. Son of William & Annie Johnston, Cookstown. Cookstown WM. Molesworth Presbyterian RH

+PRICE, George

RAF Sergeant. 541549. Died 13/12/1943. Husband to Margaret Price, Belfast. Dundonald Cemetery, Belfast

VETERANS

BOLTON, Charles Herbert

RN. Leading Seaman. J35233. Boy service from 05/03/1915. Enrolled 21/08/1917 for 12 years. War service in Impregnable, Endymion, Vivid I and Apollo (Morning Star). Served to 13/12/1928. Born Belfast 21/08/1899. ADM 188/717/35233

GRAHAM, Donald Saunders

RAMC. Major. MiD. Donald Saunders Graham was born on 20/07/1886 at Tattygar, Lisbellaw, County Fermanagh, the eighth of twelve children of Presbyterian Minister Thomas Saunders Graham and his wife Maggie (formerly Alister). In 1888 he moved with his family to Comber, County Down,

where his father had taken an appointment. Graham was educated at Campbell College, then, like most of his brothers and one of his sisters, he studied medicine – at Queens College Belfast and in Glasgow. Although he commenced study in 1904 it was not until 1916 that he received his qualifications. Graham was also an active sportsman, particularly as a member of the North Down Cricket Club. On 16/11/1914 he enlisted in the North Irish Horse at Belfast (No.1348). In early 1916 he applied for a commission and on 1 March was made a lieutenant in the Royal Army Medical Corps, being sent to the Army Medical Corps Training Centre at Limerick. Graham embarked for France on 17/05/1916. He was promoted to Captain on 01/03/1917 and was mentioned in Field Marshal Haig's despatch on 7 April 1918. He held the rank of acting major from 16/09/1918 to 22/02/1919, relinquishing his commission on 1 March 1919. After the war Graham took a posting at St Vincent, Windward Islands, in the colonial medical service. He later moved to Nassau in the Bahamas where he worked as a medical practitioner. He married Edith Licretia Knowles there on 22/05/1922. Graham died at Nassau on 13/12/1950. Four of Graham's brothers, all doctors, served during the war, all as captains in the Royal Army Medical Corps – Samuel John, William Shepherd, Norman Bell and Llewellyn Drysdale Innes.

LYNAS, Allen Henry

RAF. Pre-war civil aviation - Canadair, Montreal. MCB. Born 13/12/1910. Son of Henry Lynas, Egllantine Ave., Belfast. Winter Park, Florida

MacDERMOTT John Clarke

WW1. Machine-gun btn. 51st (Highland) Division. Commissioned. 1917. MC 1918. WW2. Royal Artillery. Major. Baron MacDermott, Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, was born 12/04/1896 in Belfast, third surviving son and sixth of seven children of the Rev. John MacDermott, DD, minister of Belmont presbyterian church and moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, and his wife Lydia Allen, daughter of Robert Wilson, solicitor, of Strabane. He was educated at Campbell College, Belfast, and awarded a scholarship to QUB in 1914. In 1916 he volunteered for military service and served in France with the machine-gun battalion of 51st (Highland) Division, being commissioned in 1917 and awarded the MC in 1918. On release he commenced his legal studies and in 1921 received an LLB degree with first-class honours and the Dunbar Plunket Barton prize. He won the Victoria prize and exhibition at King's Inns, Dublin, obtained first-class honours in his final examinations, and was called to the bar in Dublin in 1921. Taking silk in 1936, he shortly afterwards obtained a parliamentary seat, the almost obligatory route in those days to preferment. He represented QUB as one of its members in the parliament of Northern Ireland (1938–44). Enlisting again for military service at the outbreak of war, he was commissioned as a major in the Royal Artillery. He was released from the army at government request to undertake the post of minister of public security, to which he brought conspicuous organising ability, energy, and resolve at a time of crisis. He was appointed attorney general for Northern Ireland in 1941 and a judge of the Northern Ireland high court in 1944. In 1947, at the early age of 51, MacDermott became a member of the house of lords as a lord of appeal

in ordinary, the first to be appointed from Northern Ireland. He quickly made his mark as an appellate judge. He married (1926) Louise Palmer, daughter of the Rev. J. C. Johnston, DD; they had two sons and two daughters. One son became a lord justice of appeal in Northern Ireland and the other a presbyterian minister. Lord MacDermott died at home in Belfast on 13/07/1979.

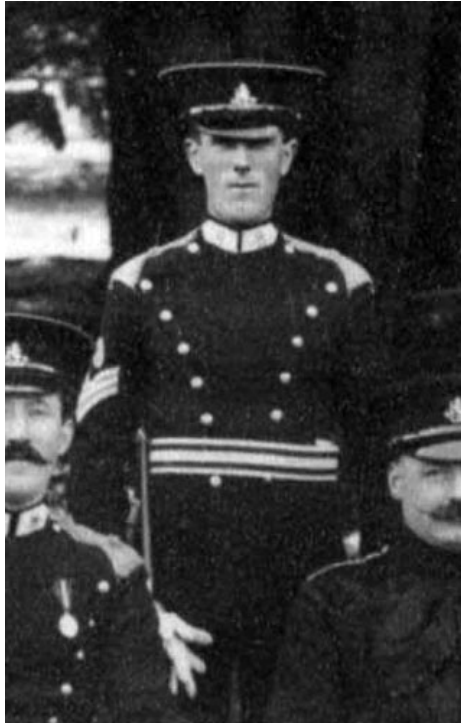
WHITESIDE, Henry Albert

Henry Albert (born Albert Henry) Whiteside (above) was born on 13 December 1892 at Goragh, Mullaglass, County Armagh, the third or fourth of eight children of farmer David Whiteside and his wife Rebecca (nee Kirkpatrick). By 1911 he was living at Goragh and working on the family farm.

Henry enlisted in the North Irish Horse between 12 November and 8 December 1909 (No.426 – later Corps of Hussars No.71025). He embarked for France on 20/08/1914 with C Squadron, seeing action in the retreat from Mons and advance to the Aisne.

Much later in the war he applied for a commission and undertook training at an officer cadet battalion in the UK. On 27/03/1918 he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant and posted to the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion, e returned to France

Later that year he embarked for France, where he was posted to one of the Inniskilling battalions in the field. He saw action in the Advance to Victory offensive in the last



months of the war, and in September or October 1918 was wounded, though not seriously.

Whiteside was promoted to lieutenant in 27/09/1919 and soon after relinquished his commission.

Every day is a Remembrance Day

We will remember them

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remembrance ni

The **remembrance ni** programme is overseen by Very Rev Dr Houston McKelvey OBE, QVRM, TD who served as Chaplain to 102 and 105 Regiments Royal Artillery (TA), as Hon. Chaplain to RNR and as Chaplain to the RBL NI area and the Burma Star Association NI. Dr McKelvey is a Past President of Queen's University Services Club. He may be contacted at houstonmckelvey@mac.com

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